

Information topic	Details
Indicator name	Meningococcal disease notifications in children aged 0–14 years
Domain and topic	Indoor Environment (and Children’s Environmental Health) domain: Meningococcal Disease
Indicator definition and units	The number and rate of notifications of meningococcal disease. Rates are presented per 100,000 population.
Data source	National database of notifiable diseases (EpiSurv), from ESR (Institute of Environmental Science and Research Ltd).
Numerator	Annual number of notifications of meningococcal disease in children aged 0–14 years.
Denominator	Population estimates (2018 and prior) and projections (after 2018) from Statistics New Zealand. For the NZDep2018 analysis, the 2018 denominator population by NZDep2018 deciles, age group and sex has been used.
Methodology	<p>Confidence interval 95% confidence intervals were calculated based on the methodology outlined in APHO (2008). Confidence intervals are presented as error bars on graphs.</p> <p>Interpreting graphs Crude rates are suppressed for counts less than 5 or populations less than 30, due to unreliability of the estimate with small numbers.</p> <p>Prioritised ethnic groups have been used, in the following prioritisation order: Māori, Pacific peoples, Asian, European/Other.</p>
Time period and time scale	Annual data, from 2001 to the most recent data available. Serogroup data is not available before 2007.
Population coverage	National.
Spatial Coverage	Nationally, with regional results available by District.
Measures of frequency	Results are presented by year, sex, age group, prioritised ethnicity, NZDep2018 decile (Atkinson et al 2021), and District. Results are also presented by serogroup.
Limitations of indicator	Meningococcal disease is a notifiable in New Zealand. All cases diagnosed by doctors and/or laboratories are required to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health in the region, who notifies the case to the national data collection (EpiSurv) administered by ESR, or directly to EpiSurv for further investigation.

Metadata

	Notifications only cover those people who visited a GP or received hospital treatment, and therefore may underestimate the true rate of disease in the population.
Limitations of data source	As above.
Related indicators	Household crowding Second-hand smoke exposure Health burden due to second-hand smoke exposure
For more information	ESR. Meningococcal Disease Reports. Available from https://surv.esr.cri.nz/surveillance/Meningococcal_disease.php
References	APHO. (2008). <i>Technical Briefing 3: Commonly used public health statistics and their confidence intervals</i> . York, UK: Association of Public Health Observatories. Atkinson J, Salmond C, Crampton P. 2021. <i>NZDep2018 analysis of Census 2018 variables</i> . Wellington: Department of Public Health, University of Otago, Wellington. URL: https://www.otago.ac.nz/wellington/departments/publichealth/otago830998.html